

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 08635 070856Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 INSE-00 SSO-00  
/041 W

-----041870 070907Z /20

O 070809Z JUL 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1307  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USLO PEKING

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BANGKOK PLEASE PASS COPY TO SHEP LOWMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJECT: MACAU GOVT AGREES TO USE OF MACAU AS REFUGEE SPILL-OVER SITE

1. JACK FRIEDMAN AND CONOFF VISITED MACAU JULY 6 AND OBTAINED COPY  
MACAU RESPONSE TO SAMPATKUMAR LETTER. DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC  
RELIEF SERVICES WILL TRANSMIT FOLLOWING TEXT DIRECTLY TO  
SAMPATKUMAR.

2. QUOTE. FATHER LANCELOT, WITH REFERENCE TO THE LETTER FROM  
MR. SAMPATKUMAR, KINDLY ADDRESSED TO THIS GOVERNMENT, I WISH  
TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS POSED AS FOLLOWS:

A) IN VIEW OF THE GRAVE PROBLEM WHICH HAS ARISEN WITH THE  
INFLUX OF REFUGEES AT THE RECEPTION CENTRE IN HONG KONG,  
AND AN INCREASE IN THE EXODUS FROM VIETNAM OF MORE  
REFUGEES IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, THE GOVERNMENT  
OF MACAU, DESPITE ITS VERY LIMITED POSSIBILITIES  
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OF ACCOMMODATION IS READY TO MAKE AVAILABLE  
TRANSIT ACCOMMODATION FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF  
REFUGEES.

B) UNLIKE HONG KONG, WE HAVE NO HOTELS OR ACCOMMODATION  
WHICH COULD BE PUT ENTIRELY AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE  
PURPOSE REQUESTED. HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT OF MACAU,

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER BODIES, IS PREPARED TO PUT AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE UNHCR ACCOMMODATION FOR 400 REFUGEES.

C) THE ACCOMMODATION TO BE PROVIDED FOR THE REFUGEES HAS BEEN KINDLY CEDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MACAU BY THE DIOCESE OF MACAU.

D) AS ACCOMMODATION IS ALREADY AVAILABLE, NO COSTS WILL BE INCURRED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS AT THE PRESENT TIME.

E) THE REFUGEES WOULD BE ACCOMMODATED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE TO SIX MONTHS, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXTENSION, JUSTIFIED BY THE UNHCR.

F) GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE REFUGEES:

1. THE TERRITORY OF MACAU PUTS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE UNHCR ACCOMMODATION FOR 400 REFUGEES. ANY ALTERATION IN THIS NUMBER WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE UNHCR.

2. THE UNHCR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESETTLEMENT OF THESE REFUGEES IN OTHER COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION, WITHIN THE PERIOD OF THREE TO SIX MONTHS AFTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECEPTION, THE PERIOD TO BE EXTENDED ONLY FOR REASONS JUSTIFIED BY THE UNHCR.

3. RESIDENCE IN MACAU MAY BE GRANTED TO ANY OF THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN VERY EXCEPTIONAL CASES, AND ONLY AFTER PERMISSION HAD BEEN GRANTED BY THE MACAU AUTHORITIES, AND A GUARANTEE OF A JOB IS ASSURED.

4. MACAU WILL RECEIVE REFUGEES TO THE LIMIT OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED AVAILABILITY OF ACCOMMODATION. AS SOON AS THIS LIMIT IS REACHED, THE FACT WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE UNHCR, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF MACAU WILL NO LONGER BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENTRY OF ANY FURTHER REFUGEES.

5. ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNHCR AND SPECIFIC EMIGRATION MATTERS (RECEPTION AND RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES) WILL BE CONDUCTED THROUGH AND BY THE CATHOLIC CENTRE, IN CO-ORDINATION WITH THE  
H  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

6. THE TOTAL MAINTENANCE OF THE REFUGEES WILL REST WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. THE UNHCR PROMISES TO PAY ALL EXPENSES WHICH IS NOW FIXED AT US\$5.--PER DIEM PER PERSON. THE UNHCR WILL BE INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES IN THE RATES OF EXPENDITURE.

G) WE SHOULD LIKE TO REMIND THE UNHCR OF OUR CONVERSATION REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSISTING IN THE HOUSING PROBLEM IN MACAU, AND TO RECALL THAT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS PLANS TO IMPLEMENT HOUSING PROJECTS, WHICH WILL NEED STRONG FINANCIAL SUPPORT. BEST WISHES. GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JUNE 30, 1978. THE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SGD. VITOR MANUEL DE OLIVEIRA SANTOS. UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENTS WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTEL. SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780278-1162  
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**Office:** ACTION HA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SREF, HK, VM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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